

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-17 are pending. Claims 1-6 and 8-17 are rejected. Claim 7 was previously cancelled. In this response, claim 13 is cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-5, 8-11, 13-15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Muranushi et al. (USPN 5,153,785), hereinafter “Muranushi”. Claims 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Frater et al. (USPN 4,479,090), hereinafter “Frater”.

Applicants submit the cited references do not teach or suggest at least “[an] apparatus, comprising: a current measurement device...wherein said current measurement device is an ammeter/voltage source” (*e.g.*, as described in claim 1).

The Office Action asserts Muranushi describes a current measurement device comprising a voltage source to supply power to a magnetic head, citing Figure 7, elements 1-5 and disclosure thereof. *See* Office Action dated 10/12/2007, page 2. Applicants disagree.

Figure 7, and its description, describes element 4 as a “current measuring device” and element 5 as a “voltage source”. *See e.g.*, column 6, line 54 – column 7, line 24. As illustrated in Figure 7, the current measurement device (element 4) is separate and distinct from voltage source (element 5). Moreover, the description of Muranushi affirms this as well:

Provided on the magnetic head carrier 2 on its surface confronting the magnetic, disk 3 is a field electron emission electrode section 1, which is connected to a current measuring device 4 disposed in a proper location in the magnetic disk drive unit. The current measuring device 4 is supplied with a voltage by being *connected to* one terminal of a constant voltage source 5, which has another terminal connected to a rotary joint 13 fitted on the spindle 12. Both of the current measuring device 4 and voltage source 5 are connected to a computation processor 6 so that they can exchange data with each other. (*emphasis added*)

See column 6, line 64 – column 7, line 7.

Contrary to the Office Action's assertion, element 4 is not "part of" element 5, and nowhere is the teaching or suggestion that they are the same or one is included as part of the other element. Applicants submit the cited Figure 7 (and its description) fails to teach or suggest at least a current measurement device that is an ammeter/voltage source.

Frater fails to make up for the deficiencies of Maranushi. Frater is directed to measuring characteristics of a magnetic recording head which is flying in an air bearing relationship over a rotating magnetic recording disk. It fails to teach or describe at least a current measurement device that is an ammeter/voltage source. *See e.g.*, Figures 2A, 2B, 3, 4, 5.

Therefore, since none of the cited references teach, suggest or describe each and every limitation of claim 1, the current rejection is inadequate and should be withdrawn, and claim 1 should be allowed. Independent claims 3, 9 and 15-17 contain similar allowable subject matter, and therefore are allowable as well. Claims 2, 4-6, 8-12 and 14 are allowable for depending from allowable base claims.

The Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Serial No. 10/775,658
Office Action dated October 12, 2007
Amendment dated January 14, 2007

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (408) 975-7500 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,
KENYON & KENYON LLP

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